

Still in need



The Commercial Review//Ray Cooney

Volunteers including Daniel Chase (foreground) load food into the trunk of a vehicle during a Second Harvest Food Bank and United Way of Jay County tailgate food distribution session in October at Jay County Fairgrounds. Additional food tailgates have been implemented to help after federal food assistance programs were paused early this month and United Way of Jay County is partnering with other local organizations on a fundraising drive.

Local drive seeks to fill the gaps

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

The government shutdown is over. The need remains. United Way of Jay County and other local organizations are partnering on a fundraising drive to continue providing help to those who did not have access to government assistance programs this month. Jane Ann Runyon, executive director of United Way of Jay County, said that while Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits have been reinstated, there may be delays in access.

"There may be some issues till they get it started back up," said Runyon. "And it's holiday time. So there's still need." The United Way is partnering with Jay County Chamber of Commerce, Purdue University Extension, the county health department, Jay County Development Corporation and Second Harvest Food Bank on a drive to ensure that those in need have access to food. They have set a goal of bringing in enough funds to feed 1,000 people. Donations can be made by

cash or check in person at the United Way of Jay County office, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland, inside John Jay Center for Learning; by mailing a check to the office; or online at unitedwayjaycounty.org. Checks should note "food assistance" in the memo line. September data show that 1,452 individuals in Jay County received SNAP benefits totaling \$261,711. That's a little more than 7% of the county's population. Those who went without benefits, in some cases, depleted savings or relied on credit,

according to a news release from Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana. "For the thousands of families who depend on SNAP, this news brings relief, but the recovery will take time," said Bekah Clawson, president and CEO of the food bank that serves Jay, Blackford, Randolph, Delaware, Grant, Henry, Madison and Wabash counties. "Even with benefits being restored, we're continuing to see record demand at our food distributions as neighbors work to catch up." See Need page 2

Trump targets state Senate GOP

President calls out legislators in fight over redistricting

By NIKI KELLY
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com
President Donald Trump on Sunday called out two Indiana "RINO Senators," as well as Gov. Mike Braun, for the state's failure to move forward with redrawing congressional boundaries. Braun worked behind the scenes for months to garner legislative support and eventually called a special session for a new map. Senate President Pro Tempore Rodric Bray on Friday announced the caucus still doesn't have the necessary votes and that his chamber would not convene Dec. 1, as planned. "Very disappointed in Indiana State Senate Republicans, led by RINO Senators Rod Bray and Greg Goode, for not wanting to redistrict their State, allowing the United States Congress to perhaps gain two more Republican seats," Trump posted to Truth Social on Sunday morning. "The Democrats have done redistricting for years, often illegally, and all other appropriate Republican States have done it," he continued. "Because of these two politically correct type 'gentlemen,' and a few others, they could be depriving Republicans of a Majority in the House, A VERY BIG DEAL!" Hours after Trump named Goode specifically, he was the victim of swatting at his Vigo County home. That is when a prankster calls police and reports a bogus need for emergency services at an address. See Targets page 2

Jay County grads open Winchester tavern

By SCOTT SHAFFER
The Commercial Review

For David and Theresa Hopkins, opening a neighborhood tavern has been a dream since their Jay County High School days. After years of talking about it — and a first attempt with Hoppy's Restaurant — the couple has found their perfect fit in Winchester. Hop's Tavern, located at 602 E. North St., opened just over a month ago in the former Anchor Inn building across from Ardagh. With a country-and-western theme, live music and hearty bar food, it's designed to feel like a friendly hometown hangout. "When we opened Hoppy's, we really wanted to be a small-town bar with good food and entertainment," said Theresa. "Hoppy's was more of a restaurant that also served drinks. Hop's Tavern is much closer to what we've always dreamed of." The décor features cowboy hats, boots and rustic signage

Hop's focuses on small-town bar feel

that reflect the tavern's relaxed, down-home feel. The menu offers familiar favorites — burgers, wings, pizza and tacos — along with a full breakfast lineup that includes eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, and pancakes. Hop's is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 3 a.m. Breakfast runs from 7 to 10 a.m., and the kitchen stays open until 2:30 a.m. "If you want a hamburger at 2 a.m., we'll fix it for you," Theresa said with a laugh. Daily specials like Taco Tuesdays keep the menu fresh, and food is available for dine-in or

carry-out. Delivery currently serves only Ardagh employees — a partnership Theresa said has been well received. "The folks at Ardagh have been very supportive and great to work with," she said. Hop's Tavern also hosts regular entertainment, featuring local bands, DJs, karaoke nights and games such as Queen of Hearts. A pool table is coming soon, and the couple plans to upgrade the dart board to a more versatile game machine. "We like to have fun," Theresa said. "It's a place where people can unwind, enjoy good food and feel at home."



Photo provided

Hop's Tavern has recently opened at 602 E. North St. in Winchester. The country and western-themed bar is owned by David and Theresa Hopkins of Portland. Hop's is a small-town bar that serves food and often features live entertainment.

Deaths

Luetta Bowen, 97, Portland
Linda Kennedy, 84, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 52 degrees Sunday. The low was 31.
There is a 40% chance of rain tonight with a low in the mid 30s. Expect cloudy skies Wednesday with a high in the upper 40s. Highs will be in the 50s later in the week.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Second Harvest Food Bank will host the following tailgate food distributions:
•Wednesday, Nov. 19, at Redkey Morgan Park, 102 W. Holmes Ave., Redkey
•Friday, Nov. 21, at Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E. Votaw St., Portland
Both tailgates are scheduled for 10 a.m.

Coming up

Wednesday — Details from next week's Jay School Board meeting.
Thursday — Photos from the FRHS girls basketball scrimmage against Newton.
Friday — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Aviation meeting.

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Obituaries

Luetta Bowen

May 30, 1928-Oct. 30, 2025

After 97 years of brightening the world, Luetta June (Smith) Bowen died Oct. 30 from complications four weeks after fracturing her skull in a fall.

Much of her life was centered on children, both her own six and the hundreds of others that she taught. Her career began in the basement of the old Carnegie Library in Portland, teaching kindergarten after she graduated from Ball State Teachers College in 1950 with an elementary education degree. She next taught kindergarten part-time at Pennville for five years while working on her master’s degree which she completed in 1964. Finally, she taught first grade at General Shanks Elementary School for 29 years, starting her tenure in 1964, the same year the “new” school opened.

Born May 30, 1928, at home in Madison Township, she was a

lifelong resident of Jay County and a 1946 graduate of Portland High School.

From her earliest years growing up on farms in Madison and Pike townships with her parents Harold and Grace Smith and sisters Ruth Evelyn and Thelma Mae, Luetta always had her hands in the earth, planting a large vegetable garden and flowers each year.

Luetta was a woman of deep faith. Only illness made her miss Sunday services at Center EUB Church, which she began attending after her 1950 marriage, and then returning to Asbury United Methodist Church (the church where she was married June 25, 1950) after Center closed in 2017. She helped with Vacation Bible School for many years and taught a children’s Sunday School class in addition to serv-



Bowen

ing as song leader and lay leader for years at Center.

Survivors include five of her six children, Pamela (Jack) Burks, Kathy Stolz, Douglas (Jacquie) Bowen, Mark Bowen and Todd Bowen. She was “Grandma Junie” to her six grandchildren — Regina (Ray) Evans, Elizabeth (James Swartout) Stolz, Thomas Bowen, Laura Bowen, Ryley (Loran) Bowen and Jadya Bowen — and to her three great-grandchildren — Leo Evans, Zachary Evans and Phoebe Bowen.

Her “second family” of Jenny, Casey and Piper Wagner was instrumental in providing her with a better quality of life in the past three years. Jenny was especially important in allowing Luetta to stay on the farm and live independently while enhancing her social life.

She was predeceased by her husband Roger Bowen, who died in 2020 after 70 years of marriage; her son Jeffrey, who died

in 2022; her son-in-law Lionel Smith, who died in 2020; and her granddaughter Abigail Bowen, who died in 1997.

Luetta requested that services be a celebration of a long life well-lived. She herself requested that attendees wear the bright colors that she loved (“nothing drab”), and her children additionally request that everyone wear colorful, crazy socks as Luetta had done in her later years.

Visitation is set for Friday, Nov. 21, from 2 to 7 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer & Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland. The funeral service will be Saturday, Nov. 22, at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary of Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St., Portland. A one-hour visitation at the church will precede the funeral. Burial will be in Salamonica Cemetery immediately after the service.

Helping others get a start toward a teaching career was

extremely important to her because the scholarship she received in 1946 changed the trajectory of her life. Although Luetta loved flowers, she requested that instead of flowers all memorials go to the Luetta Bowen Scholarship, c/o The Portland Foundation, 107 S. Meridian St., Portland, IN 47371.

Linda Louise Kennedy, Portland, May 14, 1941-Nov. 16, 2025. Graveside services will be held at a later date in Green Park Cemetery in Portland.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services. There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

CR almanac

Wednesday 11/19	Thursday 11/20	Friday 11/21	Saturday 11/22	Sunday 11/23
49/41 Wednesday's forecast looks like cloudy skies with temperatures in the 40s.	55/45 Another day of cloudy skies is slated for Thursday, when the high may reach the mid 50s.	52/37 There's a 50% chance of showers on Friday, with low temperature dipping to the mid 30s.	50/38 Saturday's weather looks like mostly sunny skies with a low temperature around 38.	52/38 Sunday looks to be mostly sunny with a high temperature around 52.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$570 million	21-25-26-29-32-34-36-40-46-48-50-51-52-55-58-72-76 Cash 5: 17-26-33-34-36 Estimated jackpot: \$285,500
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$50 million	Ohio Sunday Midday Pick 3: 7-6-3 Pick 4: 6-3-5-2 Pick 5: 5-8-1-8-8 Evening Pick 3: 5-6-7 Pick 4: 0-2-9-4 Pick 5: 8-6-2-0-4 Rolling Cash 5: 3-10-12-18-28 Estimated jackpot: \$256,000
Hoosier Sunday Midday Daily Three: 0-5-1 Daily Four: 4-3-0-1 Quick Draw: 10-15-16-19-20-21-23-28-31-34-35-40-41-46-49-50-61-74-76-80 Evening Daily Three: 4-6-7 Daily Four: 3-9-8-5 Quick Draw: 14-15-17-	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.50 Dec. corn4.56 Jan. corn4.56	Dec. beans11.43 Wheat4.99
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.51 Jan. corn4.54 Feb. corn4.54	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.33 Dec. corn4.35 Beans11.39 Dec. beans11.43 Wheat5.04
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.41 Dec. corn4.46 Beans11.38	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.46 Dec. corn4.51 Beans11.13 Dec. beans11.13 Wheat4.94

Today in history

In 1883, North American railroads shifted to a new standard time system at noon. It was referred to as Standard Railway Time and quickly resulted in the creation of the Eastern, Central, Mountain and Pacific time zones in the United States.

In 1928, “Steamboat Willie,” the first animated film with sound that featured Mickey Mouse, was released by Walt Disney.

In 1972, a five-point personal run by senior guard Larry Patterson pushed the South

Adams High School boys basketball team’s lead to double figures in the fourth quarter as the Starfires pulled away for an 87-65 season-opening win over Monroe Central.

In 2021, Redkey Town Council approved a Community Crossings grant application, using \$50,000 in wind farm economic development funds as its local match. The application was for paving of sections of High, Railroad, Sheridan, Grandview, Butler and Oak streets.

—The CR

Citizen’s calendar

Wednesday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.	120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District, district office, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland.
Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse,	7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Need ...

Continued from page 1

Runyon noted that the regularly scheduled food tailgates on the first Wednesday of each month at Jay County Fairgrounds average 220 to 250 vehicles. A special tailgate that was added on Halloween hit 330, and the regular tailgate on Nov. 5 was about 280. She added that the food pantries in Dunkirk and Portland have also seen significant increases in those seeking assistance.

She said she’s also had some requests from mothers regarding access to baby formula.

In response to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits being cut off on Nov. 1, The Portland Foundation awarded a \$50,000 grant to Second Harvest to be distributed at \$12,500 per week for four weeks if the federal government shutdown continued.

Runyon said that funding helped greatly but also noted uncertainties moving forward. The agreement that brought an end to the longest shutdown in U.S. government history last week only provided funding through Jan. 30.

Second Harvest will host the following food tailgate distributions this week:

- Wednesday, Nov. 19, at Redkey Morgan Park, 102 W. Holmes Ave., Redkey
- Thursday, Nov. 20, at Blackford County Fairgrounds, 409 E. Park Ave., Hartford City
- Friday, Nov. 21, at Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E. Votaw St., Portland
- Saturday, Nov. 22, at Second Harvest Food Bank Warehouse, 6621 N. Old State Route 3, Muncie

All tailgates are scheduled for 10 a.m.

Additional resources in Jay County include:

- Trinity ArchBridge Church Food

To donate

Drop off or mail a check to:
United Way of Jay County,
101 S. Meridian St., Portland

Go online to:
unitedwayjaycounty.org

Scan the QR code:



Capsule Reports

Turning accident

Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000 after a Portland man turned into the path of a concrete mixer truck about 8:20 a.m. Friday.

Carl A. Stanford, 86, was driving a 2019

Chevrolet Silverado north county road 200 West and stopped at its intersection with Indiana 26. He began turning west onto the highway. At the same time, Mark D. Bauman, 50, Geneva, was driving a 2008 ADV con-

crete mixer truck west on the highway. Stanford told police he didn’t see the truck, and he turned his vehicle into the back of it.

The truck is registered to St. Henry Tile Company of Berne.

Targets ...

Continued from page 1

“Vigo County sheriff’s deputies responded to the incident under the impression of a domestic violence emergency. The deputies professionally fulfilled their duty,” Goode said. “While this entire incident is unfortunate and reflective of the volatile nature of our current political environment, I give thanks to God that my family and I are OK.”

The president has been pushing GOP-led states to change their congressional maps to ensure a Republican U.S. House majority in 2026. Some Democratic-controlled states have responded in kind, moving to add more blue seats.

This story was edited for length. For the full version, visit indianacapitalchronicle.com.

SERVICES

Today
Rigby, Mary: 10 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Saturday, Nov. 22
Bowen, Luetta: 11 a.m., Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St., Portland.

Saturday, Nov. 29
Moore, Stephen: 2 p.m., Redkey Church of the Nazarene, 801 W. High St., Redkey.

Service listings provided by
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GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS

Life is worth being thankful for

By OLIVIA SMITH
The Commercial Review

It is the holiday season once again. I love this time of year, the lights, the laughter, the smells of good food drifting through the house. In my family, Thanksgiving and Christmas practically go hand in hand. We enjoy our turkey dinner with a Christmas tree already glowing in the corner. It's a time when everyone pauses to reflect on the things we're thankful for. After all, it's called Thanksgiving for a reason. We thank God for our families, our friends, the roof over

You're On Your Own, Kid



our heads, and the warmth that fills our homes. We express gratitude for the obvious blessings, the ones that make us smile and bring us peace. But I often wonder: do we also feel thankful for the things that are hard?

The messy house, the pile of dishes, the stressful job, the hard exams, we tend to see these as burdens, not blessings. We sigh when the house looks like a storm rolled through. We grumble when work drains our energy or when school pushes us past our comfort zone. But what if we took a step back and looked at those same things through a different lens?

That messy house? It means you have a home, and people who fill it with life. Those hard exams? They're a sign that you have the opportunity to get an education, something millions

around the world only dream of. That stressful job? It reminds you that you're capable, that your work has value, and that you have a way to provide for yourself and others.

Of course, there are times when these things weigh us down. Life isn't always tidy or easy. But sometimes the very things that frustrate us are also the proof of how blessed we really are. The noise, the busyness, the exhaustion, they often mean we're living full, connected, meaningful lives.

As we move through this holiday season, let's remember to

find gratitude not only in the peaceful moments but also in the chaotic ones. Let's thank God for the calm and the clutter. Because gratitude isn't just about saying "thank you" when life is good, it's about recognizing that even the hard, messy parts are evidence of something worth cherishing.

So this Thanksgiving, when you look around at the noise, the dishes, and the to-do lists, take a deep breath. Smile. You are living a life full of things to be thankful for, even the ones that don't seem like blessings at first glance.

Multiple blood drives set for November

The American Red Cross has several blood drives scheduled for November.

Those who donate between now and Dec. 7 will receive a free pair of Red Cross x PAC-MAN socks.

To schedule an appointment, visit redcross-blood.org.

Drives are scheduled for:

•Wednesday, Nov. 19 — 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Delaware County Fairgrounds, 1210 N. Wheel-

ing Ave., Muncie; and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital, 2401 W. University Ave., Muncie
•Friday, Nov. 28 — 12:30

to 5 p.m. at Caylor-Nickel Foundation Family YMCA, 550 W. Dustman Road, Bluffton
•Monday, Dec. 1 — 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at IU

Health Jay, 500 W. Votaw St., Portland
•Friday, Dec. 5 — 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Church of the Nazarene of Hartford City, 1402 W. Water St.

Aging mother worries about child's future

DEAR ABBY: I have a 54-year-old profoundly disabled, non-verbal child who is in a group home. I have been advocating for her since birth, when we learned she had suffered severe brain damage. The umbilical cord was wrapped around her neck for so long that the damage was irreparable. My first husband couldn't handle it and left us.

Luckily, a number of years later, I met and married a wonderful man. He treated my daughter as if she were his own. Every weekend, we would take her out for breakfast. Many times, we'd have to leave the restaurant because of her behavior. He was my rock and my support and helped with her until his death.

I still visit her, but I find it

Dear Abby



increasingly difficult, knowing that one day I won't be there for her. Physically, I'm no longer able to take her out by myself. I also can't ask friends to help for fear they could get hurt. I feel guilty, but also want to have some peace in my life before I leave this Earth. After visits with my daughter, I am sad for days. How can I get over this guilt I feel and find peace? — EMOTIONAL MAMA IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR MAMA: You have no reason to feel guilty. Your daughter's disability is not your fault. Neither is the fact that you are no longer physically able to lift and transport her. You are doing the best you can by letting her know you love her. Babies need touch and the reassurance that they are loved. You are already doing that and have for many years. If you haven't already done so, ensure your daughter will get proper care if anything happens to you. Accomplish this by putting your wishes in writing with the help of your attorney.

.....

DEAR ABBY: My long-ago ex-husband "Hal" is friendly with me and my husband. He lives

two doors down from us. He can drive, but whenever we visit family, he always asks to hitch a ride. We don't mind if it's dark out, because he has trouble with night vision, but we don't want to be his chauffeur and be regarded as a "throuple" anymore. Worse, he always undercuts me when I'm talking — "that's not true," "it wasn't that day," "it didn't happen that way," etc. I think Hal gets jealous when I receive any attention.

We've been kind to him because his son (and mine) died a year ago. The last straw was when I was talking about a time my son asked my opinion. Hal cut in to say, "I don't think our son would follow your advice." How do we remain friends with Hal but stop this without blow-

ing our stacks? — CLOSE TO LOSING IT

DEAR CLOSE: The next time Hal asks to hitch a ride with you to visit family, tell him that while you overlooked his undercutting in the past, when he said he didn't think your son would follow your advice, he went too far. Then tell him that in the future he will be arranging his own transportation because he won't be riding with you.

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Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email news@thecr.com.

Today

COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP — A group for anyone with a substance use disorder that helps individuals find connections as they develop long-term recovery meets at noon each Tuesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E.

Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

Wednesday

WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

PING PONG — Will be played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday in the cafe at John Jay Center for

Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT AND FAMILY TRAINING — A non-confrontational, evidence-based intervention for helping families affected by addiction meets at 4 p.m. each Wednesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

Thursday

STITCH AND CHATTER QUILT CLUB — Meets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center. Show and tell is at 1

p.m. The club is open to all ages and is for anyone who wants to sew. Bring unfinished projects and a sewing machine. For more information, call Nan Weesner (260) 766-9334.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

SMART RECOVERY — A group for those struggling with addiction that focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior; and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

EN AVANT CLUB — Meets at 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR SUICIDE GRIEF — Meets from 1 to 2:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month. The support group serves to help individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide. To register, contact Stephanie Patterson at (260) 251-3259.



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Sudoku

	5	4			2	9		
		2		3				6
8	3		5		9	2		4
4				8		7		
9			7	4				
	1	6	2	5				
				7		1	8	
3						6	2	
5		1	6				4	

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

6	5	4	8	1	2	9	7	3
1	9	2	4	3	7	8	5	6
8	3	7	5	6	9	2	1	4
4	2	5	9	8	6	7	3	1
9	8	3	7	4	1	5	6	2
7	1	6	2	5	3	4	9	8
2	6	9	3	7	4	1	8	5
3	4	8	1	9	5	6	2	7
5	7	1	6	2	8	3	4	9

The objective is to fill a nine-by nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-by-three boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.



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Rates do not apply to our Nov. 26 Thanksgiving edition. Ads must run in November.

Contact Lindsey at
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The Commercial Review

Court rightly leaves marriage alone

Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

President Donald Trump's reelection stirred concern among many that constitutional protections, including the right to marry, could be put back on the table.

The Supreme Court put those fears to rest Monday when they decided to leave it well enough alone.

At issue was a petition from a former county clerk from Kentucky who had asked the court to revisit its landmark ruling on same-sex marriage.

Former Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis in 2015 refused to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples after the Supreme Court's Obergefell v. Hodges ruling, denying residents in her county the ability to marry under civil law. She spent some time in jail for contempt before her office ultimately complied. She was also ordered to pay monetary damages.

Guest Editorial

If Davis believed the law conflicted with her personal convictions, the appropriate step was resignation, not obstructing couples' access to a legal right. The issue was not Davis' faith. The

issue was that a public office cannot selectively withhold rights the Constitution guarantees.

Davis' case now dead, Obergefell stands strong. The precedent remains intact. It's nice to start off the week with some good news.

Civil law is not the same as religious law, and if you want the government to protect your right to live according to your faith, you must protect others' rights to live according to theirs.

Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, writing for the majority in Obergefell said, "It would misunderstand these men and women to say they disrespect the idea of marriage. ... They ask for equal dignity in the

eyes of the law. The Constitution grants them that right."

Yes. The Constitution requires treating people equally under the law, pure and simple.

We have long held that protections and privileges that same-sex couples take for granted — including tax breaks, property rights, child custody considerations, the ability to visit a partner in the hospital or participate in medical decisions — should not be denied by the state on the basis of sexual orientation.

Remember, that's how it worked before Obergefell.

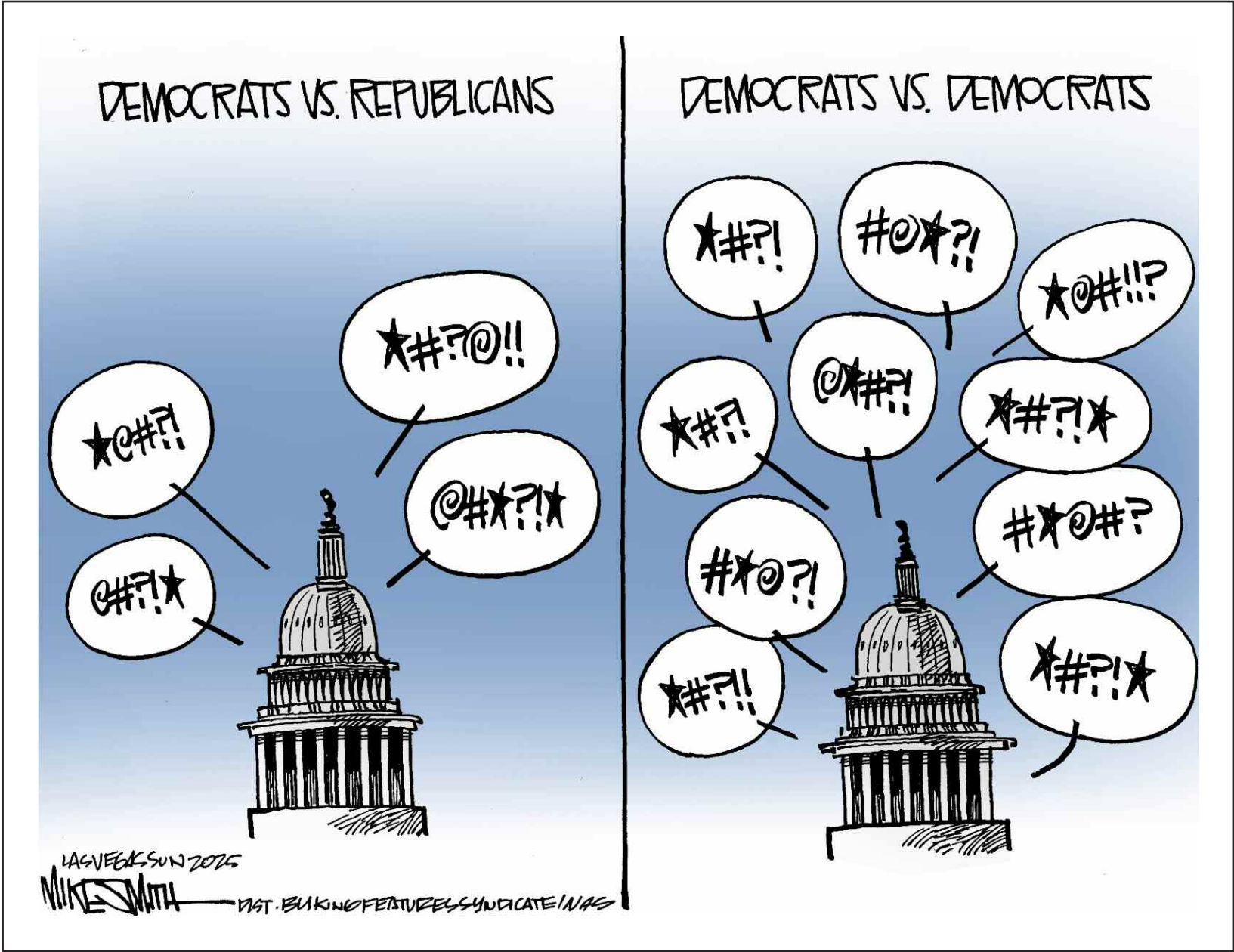
Dissenting justices in 2015 worried that the court was usurping states' rights in determining their own rules. We wrote: "That may be true. But waiting for all of

America to get on board is not what the Constitution demands. Our rights are not subject to majority rule."

Illinois was among the first states to recognize same-sex marriage, passing a law legalizing same-sex civil unions in 2011 and another law in 2013 that legalized same-sex marriage. It feels strange to remind ourselves that these rights are still so new.

This time around, with the court declining to hear Davis' challenge, no justices issued public dissent. The absence thereof is something for all freedom-loving Americans to cheer.

The court's refusal to take up the case reinforces what the Constitution already demands: equal treatment under civil law.



Certain issues simply never go away

By NIKI KELLY

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

When you have covered the Statehouse since 1999, it sometimes feels like being stuck in a time loop. Some issues come back over and over, with no substantive changes in the discussion.

One of my favorites of these arose again last week when key lawmakers came out in support of reducing the number of state boards and commissions. Others though include constant tinkering with "workforce development." And let's not forget the endless fight over township government.

But first — back to boards and commissions. Everyone seems to agree we have too many of these ubiquitous government panels — more than 250. These entities cost the state at least \$700,000, mostly in per diem, travel and staff costs.

But as soon as you start picking and choosing which ones have to go, people who care about the topic go into fight mode.

When the discussion arose during interim study committees this summer and fall, memories of when then-Gov. Mitch Daniels pitched the same thing in 2006 came flooding back.

"Legislators eager to demon-

Niki Kelly



strate their enthusiasm for some cause or interest group find creating these entities an easy and generally low-cost way to do so," Daniels said then. "And while these boards and commissions take up only a minute chunk of Indiana's budget, they devour time, money, and energy far beyond any real contribution they make."

He asked legislators to overhaul 300-plus state boards and commissions. Initially he wanted to put a sunset date on every panel so that lawmakers would consider the value of each one in terms of allowing it to continue.

But it took years to make any progress.

Daniels wrote about the effort in a 2012 Atlantic article: "Progress is not impossible. After years of trying, we have euthanized over 70 of these boards and commissions. My favorite method is to not appoint board or commission members and see if anyone notices. I took a more direct

approach in proposing and signing a recent 'spring cleaning' bill which took out over 20 entities, including a water shortage task force, a library automation council, and numerous other innocuous-sounding government bodies that rarely meet and whose minimal responsibilities frequently overlap."

Last year, Rep. Steve Bartels, R-Eckerty, introduced a bill that would have eliminated or repealed several boards and commissions. Among them were the Department of Natural Resources' Advisory Council, the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission, the Indiana Standardbred Advisory Board, the Certification Appeal Board, the Indiana Commission for Arts and Humanities Education, the Law Enforcement Academy Building Commission.

The bill didn't even get a hearing. And the irony is that the same legislation would have created the Indiana Historical Records Advisory Board.

Bartels and Sen. Chris Garten, R-Charlestown, say they will be back at it again in 2026 though they don't have a specific list of boards and commissions quite yet.

But there are other topics besides boards and commis-

sions that always come back around.

Workforce woes

I don't think there has been a single year where lawmakers haven't passed workforce legislation, and I count at least two major overhauls of the workforce development system during my tenure.

And yet we never seem to make improvements. After decades of programs and state spending, businesses still say finding qualified workers is their biggest struggle.

Not enough Hoosiers are going to college or receiving other training or certifications. And Indiana had 135,000 job openings in June 2025. Newer numbers have been delayed by the federal government shutdown.

Township toils

Another issue I have seen cycle through the Legislature numerous times are attempts to eliminate township government. Indiana has 1,008 townships with boards and trustees.

In 2008, about 950 township assessors were abolished after a report on local government reform headed by former Gov. Joe Kernan and then-Chief Justice Randall Shepard rocked the state. It was titled "Streamlining

local government. We've got to stop governing like this."

But lawmakers — many of whom came up through local government — have resisted eliminating the level of government closest to the people. The Indianapolis Star recently reported on township spending, and suggested Gov. Mike Braun might support another push against the township structure in 2026.

"All told, Indiana taxpayers spent nearly \$20 million on township trustee and board member pay alone in 2024, according to an IndyStar analysis of government salary data, almost as much as the \$25 million they doled out in poor relief assistance to residents, which advocates for township government say is the most important thing they do."

So, it looks like I'll get to cover another round of debate on township reform right alongside a new effort to purge boards and commissions. It remains to be seen if reporters 20 years from now will get to do it all over again.

Kelly, editor-in-chief of Indiana Capital Chronicle, has covered the Indiana Statehouse since 1999.

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

The Commercial Review



US PS 125820

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The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and six holidays (New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas — holidays are observed on Tuesday when they fall on a Monday) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

We welcome letters to the editor, which are accepted by email only to letters@thecr.com. They should be 700 words or fewer, signed, with city/town of residence and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit for content and clarity.

VOLUME 151—NUMBER 141
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2025

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"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."
—Thomas Jefferson

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Winterfest kicks off on Friday

Jay County Chamber of Commerce is preparing for its Winterfest celebration. Winterfest will kick off with Christmas at the Courthouse at 5:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 21. The event will include tree lighting and a performance by the Jay County Junior-Senior High School choir. Following on Saturday, Nov. 22, will be the Little Miss Winterfest pageant at 1 p.m. at Fellowship Baptist Church and the Parade of Lights at 6:30 p.m. in downtown Portland. The chamber also recently welcomed Enlightened Lens Collective as a new member.

Facility launches

NextEra Energy Resources celebrated the start of operations of the Appleseed Energy Center solar facility last week in Cass County, Indiana. The 200-megawatt facility will be owned and operated by Appleseed Solar, a NextEra subsidiary. Northern Indiana Public Service Company will purchase the energy the facility generates. “We’re proud to be part of Indiana’s energy future and to continue our long-standing collaboration with NIPSCO,” said Nex-

Business roundup

tera vice president Anthony Pedroni in a news release. “The Appleseed Energy Center is an example of our shared commitment to advancing energy independence and delivering real benefits to Hoosiers — strengthening Indiana’s energy infrastructure, supporting local communities and helping drive economic development.”

Leader elected

Walmart’s board of directors has elected John Furner as its next president and CEO. Furner, who will also serve on the board of directors, will step into his new role Feb. 1 following the retirement of Doug McMillon. He has led the U.S. branch of Walmart since 2019 and was previously president and CEO of Sam’s Club U.S. “John Furner is the right leader to guide Walmart into our next chapter of growth and transformation,” said Greg Penner,

chairman of Walmart Inc., in a news release. “After starting as an hourly associate and being with us for over 30 years in a variety of leadership roles across all three of our operating segments, John understands every dimension of our business — from the sales floor to global strategy. He has proven that he can deliver results while living our values.”

Training offered

ServSafe training will be available at John Jay Center for Learning in Portland.

The next session is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 25.

The certification course is open to all food service employees and emphasizes safe food- and beverage-handling practices to minimize the risk of food-borne illnesses.

For more information, or to register, call (260) 729-5525.

Facility honored

The Leapfrog Group gave Bluffton Regional Medical Center an “A” Hospital Safety Grade.

The grades are based on measures of errors, accidents, injuries and infections as well as systems

hospitals have in place to prevent them. The Leapfrog Group is an independent national nonprofit watchdog focused on patient safety.

“For a rural community, access to safe, quality healthcare close to home is absolutely essential,” said Julie Thompson, chief administrative officer of Bluffton Regional Medical Center, in a news release. “Receiving this ‘A’ from The Leapfrog Group confirms that our hospital is meeting and exceeding the national standards. It’s the ultimate reassurance to our residents that: you don’t have to leave our community to get a high level of care. This achievement belongs to every staff member of Bluffton Regional Medical Center who treats our patients like family every day.”

Professor honored

Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association recently honored Ball State University professor Liu Li with the 2025 William Hatfield Distinguished Lifetime World Language Career Award.

The award honors members whose “lifelong dedication has made significant contributions to world lan-

guage education at the national, state, and local levels.” Li received the award at the Global and Multil-IN-gual Celebration of Success Gala on Nov. 7 in Indianapolis.

“This honor reflects the enormous impact Dr. Li has made at the local, state, and national levels, uplifting world language education across Indiana and beyond,” said Jennifer Rathbun, professor of Spanish and chair of Ball State’s Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, in a news release. “Her expertise has inspired teachers and students alike through countless conferences, workshops, and panels. We are incredibly proud to see her contributions recognized so meaningfully.”

New leader named

Dollar General has named Emily Taylor as its new chief operating officer. Taylor took over her new role Sunday. She previously served as the company’s executive vice president and chief merchandising officer.

“Emily’s strategic vision and tenured understanding of the vital role DG plays in our customers’ lives will be invaluable as she expands

her responsibilities as COO,” said Todd Vasos, Dollar General’s CEO, in a news release. “During her tenure, Emily and her team have consistently enhanced the shopping experience both in-store and through various digital and delivery initiatives, elevated the Dollar General and pOpshelf® brands, and improved operational efficiency, benefiting customers across the more than 20,000 communities we serve.”

Chair elected

Matt McMillan has been elected chair of America’s Newspapers.

McMillan is CEO of Press Publications in Minnesota. America’s Newspapers is a trade organization that advocates for the newspaper industry.

Others elected at the organization’s Nov. 5 Senior Leadership Conference were treasurer Jeremy Gulban of CherryRoad Media and board members Nancy Meyer of the Houston Chronicle, James Paxton of Paxton Media Group and Jason Taylor of Gannett.

Does your business have news to share? Email us at news@theccr.com to be included in our weekly business roundup.

Disney settles dispute with YouTube TV

By MEG JAMES
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

ESPN football is returning to YouTube TV after the service and The Walt Disney Co. settled their contentious contract dispute — ending the 15-day blackout of Disney channels.

The Disney-owned channels and ABC station signals were being restored for YouTube TV’s 10 million customers, the companies announced late Friday. The breakthrough came after the companies agreed on a new distribution deal for YouTube, which is owned by Google, replacing the previous pact that had expired on Oct. 30.

Financial terms were not disclosed.

“This new agreement reflects our continued commitment to delivering exceptional entertainment and evolving with how audiences choose to watch,” Disney Entertainment Co-Chairmen Alan Bergman and Dana Walden and ESPN Chairman Jimmy Pitaro said in a statement.

“It recognizes the tremendous value of Disney’s programming and provides YouTube TV subscribers with more flexibility and choice. We are pleased that our networks have been restored in time for fans to enjoy the many great programming options this weekend, including college football.”



Tribune News Service/Getty Images for ESPN/Mike Windle

ESPN football is returning to YouTube TV after the service and The Walt Disney Co. settled their contract dispute — ending the 15-day blackout of Disney channels.

The outage surpassed the length of last year’s clash between Disney and DirecTV, which saw Disney channels being dropped for 13 days.

YouTube and Disney have been bickering over distribution fees. Google had rebuffed Disney’s earlier demands for fee increases to carry ESPN, ABC and other channels. The Burbank entertainment giant wanted to maintain revenue to help pay for Disney’s content production, streaming ambi-

tions and ESPN’s gargantuan sports rights deals, including long-term contracts with the NFL and the NBA.

YouTube pushed back, pointing to declining viewership for ABC and other channels, for which Disney had been seeking fee increases.

Disney and other programmers have been trying to boost fees to offset the loss of pay-TV customers who have cut the cord or switched to smaller streaming

bundles. YouTube also had accused Disney of holding out in an effort to scoop up aggravated YouTube TV subscribers considering a switch to its Fubo or Hulu + Live TV services, which compete directly with YouTube TV. The services offer most of the same TV channels.

The dispute highlighted the ongoing tensions between pay-TV distributors and programmers amid the shift to streaming. In 2021, the Disney channels were knocked off YouTube TV for two days in an earlier fee dispute.

A shrinking pool of big-bundle subscribers increasingly has been asked to shoulder higher programming expenses. Distributors, including YouTube TV, have tried to hold the line on prices, cognizant that their customers are tired of ever-escalating monthly bills. YouTube TV offered a package of channels for \$35 a month when it launched in 2017. The service now costs \$82.99 a month.

The cost of carrying broadcast channels (ABC, CBS, Fox and NBC) and sports networks, including ESPN, has skyrocketed because of the huge jump in costs for TV rights deals with major sports leagues. ESPN is the most expensive basic cable channel, costing pay-TV distributors nearly \$10 a month per subscriber home.

Disney has defended its costs to pay-TV distributors, arguing that it provides high-quality programming that consumers love.

The company also is trying to transition its businesses to focus more heavily on direct-to-consumer streaming services, including Disney+ and Hulu + Live TV, that bypass the traditional pay-TV distributors.

The skirmish was just the latest between YouTube and a major programming company.

Since August, Rupert Murdoch’s Fox Corp., Comcast’s NBCUniversal and Spanish-language broadcaster Univision have all complained that YouTube TV has been trying to use its market muscle to squeeze them for concessions.

“Rather than compete on a level playing field, Google’s YouTube TV has approached these negotiations as if it were the only player in the game,” the Disney executives Pitaro, Bergman and Walden wrote in a Nov. 7 email sent to employees.

YouTube TV customers were without Univision and Unimas since Sept. 30.

That dispute centered on YouTube’s plan to group the Univision channels with other Spanish-language programming on a separate tier rather than offer the channels as part of YouTube’s basic packages.

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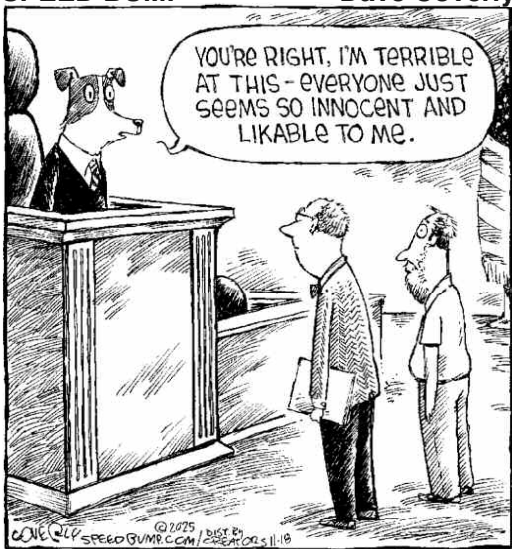
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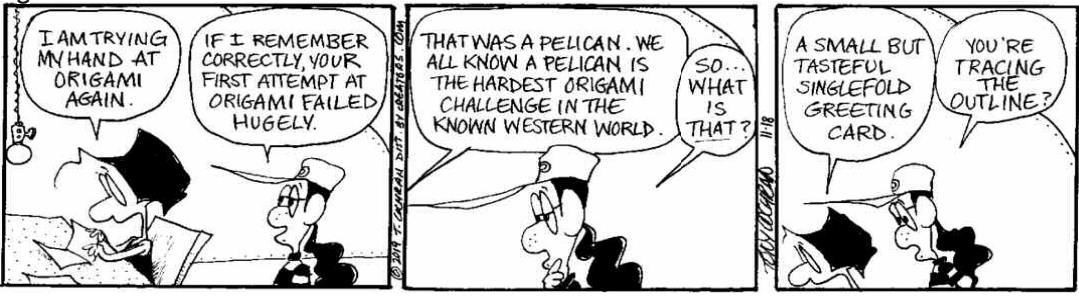
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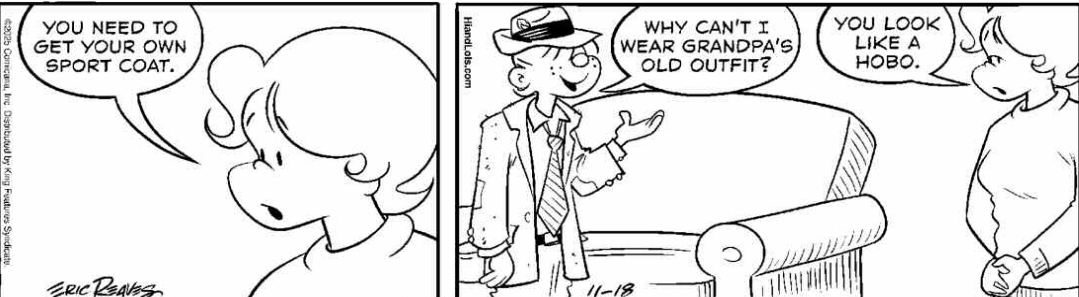
Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



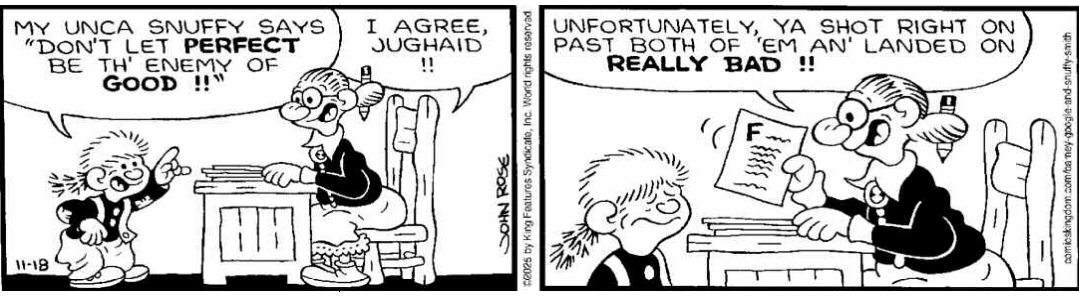
Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Plan ahead

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 7 5
♥ A J 4
♦ A K 7 5 3 2
♣ 10 4

WEST
♠ A 10 6 2
♥ 9 8 3
♦ 4
♣ K 7 6 5 3

EAST
♠ Q J 9 3
♥ 6 2
♦ J 10 9 6
♣ Q J 8

SOUTH
♠ K 8 4
♥ K Q 10 7 5
♦ Q 8
♣ A 9 2

The bidding:
North 1♦ Pass
East 1♥ Pass
South 2♥ Pass
West 4♥ Pass

Opening lead — four of diamonds.
Before proceeding with the play, declarer should formulate a general plan that makes allowance for the various ways in which the opposing cards might be divided. He might not be able to come up with a plan that guarantees success against every possible distribution, but he should try to find the line of play that offers him the best chance to succeed.

Consider this deal where West led a diamond against South's four-heart contract. Declarer won East's

nine with the queen and could count 12 tricks if the diamonds were divided 3-2. West's opening lead, however, had all the earmarks of a singleton, and if it was, the contract was in distinct jeopardy.

Declarer's task, therefore, was to formulate a line of play that would succeed against a 4-1 diamond break as well as a normal 3-2 division. Accordingly, he cashed the A-K of hearts and was gratified to see both opponents follow suit. He then abandoned further trump leads, leaving a heart at large and the jack in dummy as a later entry, and led the eight of diamonds.

This gave West a chance to ruff, but if he did, dummy would follow low, and declarer would wind up with 11 tricks — five hearts, five diamonds and a club. And if West discarded instead, South would win in dummy, ruff a low diamond high, cross to the jack of hearts and again finish with 11 tricks. West's play was therefore immaterial.

Note that if declarer had not taken the trouble to assess the situation and had instead blithely drawn three rounds of trump at the outset, he would have gone down. The 4-1 diamond break plus the unfavorable location of the ace of spades would have limited him to nine tricks.

Tomorrow: A very valuable signal.
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11-18

CRYPTOQUIP

Y W A Y Q H P F O E J J Y H L P A J L E
I P F X G E I Y A K O E F J X , A K P ' G G
B Q U L B S J P U G X S P G E S P G G P

LW JKP SEGG.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WEIRD AILMENT SUFFERED BY MANY PEOPLE WHO PRODUCE OBJECTS THAT ARE PROJECTILES: MISSILE TOE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals B

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Clarified butter
5 Cover
8 Over-pack
12 Debtors' notes
13 Chemical suffix
14 Athletic shoe brand
15 Ranger's study
17 Some wines
18 Ring decision
19 Salt Lake athlete
20 Jack who ate no fat
21 Walgreens alternative
22 Golf position
23 Uproar
26 Root vegetables
30 French waterway
31 Showbiz job
32 Half a sextet
33 Fruit-filled dessert
35 Snares
36 Physics particle

DOWN
2 Boxer's punch
3 Modern money
4 Jargon suffix
5 Playwright/actor
6 Concerning
7 Who — (Cincinnati Bengals mascot)
8 Woodworking patron
9 KOA
10 Verdi heroine
11 Sail support
16 Capital of Fiji
20 Knightly address

Solution time: 22 mins.

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER 11-18

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18				19			20			
			21			22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30				31			32			
33				34			35			
			36				37			
38	39	40			41			42	43	44
45				46			47			
48				49			50			
51				52			53			

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Inside ...

Continued from page 1
“She bought in. ... Just incredibly efficient.”
Curry went 4-for-5 from long distance and 8-of-12 overall for her 20 points.
Five of the six Hamilton Heights players who scored were freshmen, with Blum contributing nine points, nine rebounds and three assists, point guard Bayleigh Eisele totaling six points and seven assists, and Stella Taylor chipping in two points. Junior guard Kamryn Rhoton had the other six points.
The Schwieterman sisters led

tributing nine points, nine rebounds and three assists, point guard Bayleigh Eisele totaling six points and seven assists, and Stella Taylor chipping in two points. Junior guard Kamryn Rhoton had the other six points.
The Schwieterman sisters led

Jay County by getting to the foul line, where they scored 20 of their combined 47 points. Hallie finished with 25 to go along with a team-high nine rebounds. Carsyn, a freshman, was 14-of-18 from the line as she scored 22 but also missed more than 12 minutes of the first half

because of foul trouble and fouled out with about three minutes remaining.
“I was pleased with our effort,” said McIntire. “I felt like we didn’t quit ... continued to battle. ... We gave the effort. Even when we were down, they kept trying to edge back.”

The opening half was back-and-forth, with 14 lead changes. The Patriots’ last advantage came at 25-24 following a Hallie Schwieterman drive that led to a Hamilton Heights timeout.
Charlee Peters and Raylah Newton each scored three points for Jay County.

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LOCATED: CR 100 N, 6.5 MILES E OF HWY 27. PORTLAND, IN REAL ESTATE
96.6 Acres in Section 16, Noble Twp. Jay County, Indiana.
Tract 1: 76 +/- Acres with 68 Acres Tillable with frontage on County Road 100 N.
Tract 2: 20 +/- Acres Wooded with Access via a 25' Lane from County Road 100 N. Wooded Acreage in Classified Forest.
Tract 3: Combination of Tracts 1 and 2.
Note: Tillable Acreage does have some tile but not systematically drained. More acreage can be made tillable.
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Thursday Evening
DECEMBER 4, 2025
6:00 P.M.
REAL ESTATE - PIKE TOWNSHIP, JAY COUNTY INDIANA
TRACT 1 - 31.48 acres of land located in Section 30 of Pike Township. 28.92 acres of tillable land and the balance in non tillable land and roadway. This parcel of land has road frontage on CR 175W and CR 800 S.
TRACT 2 - 43 +/- acres of land with approximately 42 acres of tillable land and the balance in roadway and utility transmission tow-

90 SALE CALENDAR

ers.
This parcel of land has road frontage on CR 175W.
TRACT 3 - 74.48 +/- acres of land, which is the combination of Tract 1 and Tract 2.
For more information contact Gary Loy, Auctioneer at (260) 726-5160 or Kim Loy, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700.
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260 PUBLIC AUCTION

REAL ESTATE
PUBLIC AUCTION

Located at the Women’s Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland Indiana
Thursday Evening
DECEMBER 4, 2025
6:00 P.M.
REAL ESTATE – PIKE TOWNSHIP, JAY COUNTY INDIANA

Tract 1 – 31.48 acres of land located in Section 30 of Pike Township. 28.92 acres of tillable land and the balance in non tillable land and roadway. Soils consist of Blount/Glynwood, Glynwood Clay Loam and Pewamo. This parcel of land has road frontage on CR 175W and CR 800 S.
Tract 2 – 43 +/- acres of land with approximately 42 acres of tillable land and the balance in roadway and utility transmission towers. Soils consist of Blount/Glynwood, Glynwood Clay Loam and Pewamo. This parcel of land has road frontage on CR 175W.
Tract 3 – 74.48 +/- acres of land, which is the combination of Tract 1 and Tract 2.

Terms of Sale: 10% nonrefundable deposit day of auction and balance due at closing. Closing to be held within 45 days from auction date. Sellers will furnish Title Insurance and Warranty Deed. Buyer will assume taxes due and payable in May 2026 and thereafter. Possession at closing. Owner confirmation day of auction and any statements made day of sale will take precedence over printed matter.

For more information contact Gary Loy, Auctioneer at (260) 726-5160 or Kim Loy, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700.
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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
IN THE JAY SUPERIOR COURT
2025 TERM
CAUSE NO: 38D01-2511-MI-000032
HOME FREE ENTERPRISES –
INDIANA 2024, LLC Plaintiff
and THE HIGHEST RANKING OFFICER OF GREAT FUTURE, LLC
DEBORAH A. ELMORE THE HIGHEST RANKING OFFICER OF INDIANA DEPT. OF REVENUE
THE HIGHEST RANKING OFFICER OF INDIANA DEPT. OF REVENUE
COY BURKS AND THE UNKNOWN HUSBAND, WIFE, WIDOW, WIDOWER, CHILD, CHILDREN, DESCENDANTS, HEIRS, SURVIVING SPOUSES, CREDITORS AND ADMINISTRATORS OF THE ESTATE; DEVEISEES, LEGATEES, TRUSTEES, EXECUTORS OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENTS; SUCCESSORS IN INTEREST AND ASSIGNS, RESPECTFULLY, OF EACH OF THE FORGOING PERSONS, ALL OF WHOM ARE UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF; ALL OF THE WOMEN ONCE KNOWN BY ANY OF THE NAMES AND DESIGNATIONS ABOVE STATED WHOSE NAMES MAY HAVE BEEN CHANGED AND WHO ARE NOW KNOWN BY OTHER NAMES; THE NAMES OF ALL WHOM ARE UNKNOWN TO THE PLAINTIFF, AS THE SPOUSES OF EACH OF THE PERSONS NAMED ABOVE, OR DESCRIBED AND DESIGNATED AS DEFENDANTS IN THIS ACTION WHO ARE MARRIED; THE NAMES OF ALL OF WHOM ARE UNKNOWN TO PLAINTIFF; ALL PERSONS AND CORPORATIONS WHO ASSERT OR MIGHT ASSERT ANY TITLE, CLAIM OR INTEREST IN OR LIEN UPON THE REAL ESTATE AND INTEREST THEREIN DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT IN THIS ACTION BY, UNDER OR THROUGH ANY OF THE DEFENDANTS IN THIS ACTION NAMED, DESCRIBED OR DESIGNATED IN THIS COMPLAINT AND ABOVE NAMED; ALL OF WHOM ARE UNKNOWN TO THIS PLAINTIFF.
Defendant(s)
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
Notice is hereby given to the following named persons who may claim some interest in the following described real estate and whose whereabouts are unknown or some or all of whom are unknown to the Plaintiff, to wit:
“SEE DEFENDANTS LISTED ABOVE”
You have been sued in the above entitled action to Quiet Title to the following described real estate located in Jay County, Indiana, to wit:
A.
Parcel ID No: 38-09-08-101-085.000-014
Legal: 45' W PT LOT 7 BLK 32 O P
Common Address: 210 W. North St., Dunkirk IN 47336 B.
Parcel ID No: 38-09-14-403-011.000-031
Legal: 75' X 335' PT SE ¼ S14 T22 R12.55 A
Common Address: 80 N. Sycamore St., Redkey IN 47373
That unless you appear in person or by counsel and respond to the allegations of said complaint within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice a judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Clerk of Jay County, Indiana
JON D. MADISON (26466-33)
DeFur Voran LLP
400 S. Walnut Street, Ste. 200
Muncie IN 47305
765-288-3651
765-288-7068 (fax)
CR 11-18,25,12-2-2025-HSPAXLP

READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
IN5238008 REDKEY WATER PLANT
We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) for the year, for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. (Este informe contiene informacón muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien).
REDKEY WATER PLANT IS: GROUND WATER
For more information regarding this report contact:
Name MATTHEW CORWIN
Phone 765-369-2711
Sources of Drinking Water

REDKEY WATER PLANT is ground water
Source Name Type of water
Well #1 EAST Ground water
Well#2 WEST Ground Water
The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.
Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.
Contaminants that may be present in source water include:
- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.
In the tables below, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:
Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.
Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
Maximum residual disinfectant level goa 1 or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Treatment Technique or TT: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
Avg. Average - Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.
LRAA: Locational Running Annual Average
mrem: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
ppb : micrograms per liter (ug/L) or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm : milligrams per liter (mg/L) or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water
picocuries per liter (pCi/L): picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
na: not applicable.
Our water system tested a minimum of 2 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. With the microbiological samples collected, the water system collects disinfectant residuals to ensure control of microbial growth.
Disinfectant Date HighestRAA Unit Range MRDL1 MRDLG Typical Source
Regulated Contaminants

In the tables below, we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results.

Lead and Copper	Period	90th percentile 90% of your water utility levels were less than	Range of Sampled Results (low-high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	
Copper, Free	2021-2024	0.41	0.02-0.75	ppm	1.3	0	
Typical source: Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives							
Lead	2021-2024	1.3	1.3-11	ppb	15	0	
Typical source: Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits							
Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAAS)	9017 W SR 67	2023-2024	6	6.36-6.36	ppb	60	0
Typical Source: By-product of drinking water disinfection							
TTHM	9017 W SR 67	2023-2024	16	15.8-15.8	ppb	80	0
Typical Source: By-product of drinking water chlorination							
Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	
Arsenic	8/23/2023	4.2	4.2	ppb	10	0	
Typical Source: Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.							
Barium	8/23/2023	0.04	0.04	ppm	2	2	
Typical Source: Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.							
Fluoride	8/23/2023	1.48	1.48	ppm	4	4	
Likely Source of Contamination: Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.							
Radiological Contaminates	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	
COMBINED RADIUM (-226 & -228)	6/13/2021	1.49	1.49	pCi/L	5	0	
Typical Source: Erosion of natural deposits							
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL RADON & U	6/13/2021	1.8	1.8	pCi/L	15	0	
Typical Source: Erosion of natural deposits							
GROSS BETA PARTICLE ACTIVITY	6/13/2021	1.7	1.7	pCi/L	0	0	
Typical Source: Decay of natural and man-made deposits. Note: The gross beta particle activity MCL is 4 millirems/year annual dose equivalent to the total bodyor any internal organ. 50 pCi/L is used as a screening level.							
RADIUM-226	6/13/2021	1.47	1.47	pCi/L	5	0	
RADIUM-228	6/13/2021	0.02	0.02	pCi/L	5	0	
Violations							

During the period covered by this report we had the below noted violations.
No violations during this period.
Additional Required Health Effects Language:
Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit forms of radiation known as photons and beta radiation. Some people who drink water containing beta particle and photon radioactivity in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
There are no additional required health effects violation notices.
Deficiencies
Unresolved significant deficiencies that were identified during a survey done on the water system are shown below.
No deficiencies during this period.
For Public participation in decision-making made about the Water Quality, Town of Redkey Board meetings are scheduled the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at Town Hall.
CR 11-18-2025-HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
CAUSE NO.
38C01-2511-EU-000031
IN THE MATTER OF
THE ESTATE OF
John T. Loper, Sr.,
Deceased

NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that John T. Loper, Jr., was, on November 13, 2025, appointed personal representative of the estate of John T. Loper, Sr., deceased, who died on November 2, 2025, and was authorized to administer said estate without court supervision.
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the clerk of this court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Portland, Indiana, this November 14, 2025.
Melissa Elliot
Clerk, Jay Circuit Court
Timothy K. Babcock
Attorney No. 21526-90
DALE, HUFFMAN & BABCOCK
30 Premier Avenue
Bluffton, Indiana 46714
(260) 824-5566
Attorney for Estate
CR 11-18,25-2025-HSPAXLP

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Inside out

Hamilton Heights 6-footers light up Jay from long distance

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

ARCADIA — Riley Suarez had her way in the paint in the first half.

Still, the Patriots attacked the basket and mostly kept pace.

It was when Suarez and fellow 6-footer Zoey Curry stepped outside that the game got away.

Suarez's back-to-back 3-pointers early in the third quarter pushed Hamilton Heights High School's advantage to double figures, and consecutive triples from Curry increased it to its widest margin. The freshman duo combined for 52 points Saturday as the host Huskies handed Jay County a 73-57 defeat.

"I'd like to have a do-over," said JCHS coach Sherri McIntire, whose team slipped to 1-1 after opening its season Nov. 11 with a 62-16 bludgeoning of South Side. "I just felt like in the beginning we didn't match their physicality. I felt like that got better as the game went on."

The game was tied at 26 late in the second quarter before Hamilton Heights (2-1) pushed to a five-point advantage at halftime. The home team scored the first seven points of the second half, including the pair of triples from the 6-foot, 1-inch Suarez.

The Patriots got back to within eight before Curry got into the act from long distance. She hit her pair, and another freshman, Addison Blum, added a third for a 49-32 lead.

"We've got to be able to defend and get stops," said

McIntire. "They shot the ball better than we anticipated. I had watched them two games and they had not shot the three like that. So that's either our defense wasn't very good or they shot better than they normally do."

Hamilton Heights coach Erin Trimpe noted a halftime adjustment that focused on eliminating driving lanes for Jay County's Hallie Schwieterman. Though the junior led the Patriots with 25 points, she was scoreless in the third period as her team was outscored 22-11.

"We came out and changed our defense a little bit," said Trimpe. "I mean, (Hallie) Schwieterman is just such a talented player. She's so dynamic and she creates so well for herself and for others. And so we had to find a way to try and limit her a little bit."

JCHS was able to get back within nine twice in the final period, but the Huskies scored the game's final seven points to pull away again.

Suarez had 18 of her game-high 32 points in the first half and was efficient throughout. She missed only one 3-point attempt and shot 14-of-19 overall while grabbing eight rebounds.

"We had really preached to Riley before the game to work for the inside out," Trimpe said. "We feel like she's got such a good touch. ... So she stepped up to the challenge."

"The joke with her that she doesn't love to be in the paint. She likes to be on that 3-point line, perimeter."

See **Inside** page 7



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Elizabeth Brunswick of the Jay County High School girls basketball team pushes up a shot during the Patriots' 73-57 loss at Hamilton Heights on Saturday. Brunswick finished with two points, eight rebounds, one assist and one block.

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Smoked Bone In Turkey Breasts (5-7 lb & 10-12 lb avg) . . **\$4.99/lb**

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Tribe beats Wildcats in opening dual match

MINSTER, Ohio — Reece LeFevre led the boys in the first tournament of the season. But in the first match of the year, it was Garrett Diller's time to shine.

Diller led the Fort Recovery High School boys bowling team to a 2,713-2,659 non-conference victory over the Minster Wildcats at Community Lanes on Saturday.

Diller rolled a 196-pin average with scores of 183 and 209 in the individual games. The only other Indian to break the 200-pin mark was Riley Stammen with a 206.

James Westgerdes and A.J. Sieffring both bowled two individual games as well totaling 378 and 356 pins, respectively.

FRHS Roundup

Leland Wilson (176) and Ben Vogel (156) both rolled one game each as well.

In the five baker games, Fort Recovery (1-0) averaged 182.8 pins. The fourth game was the highest at 203, while the Tribe knocked down 201 in the opening game.

Brown leads

MINSTER, Ohio — Fort Recovery's girls bowling team picked up its first win over the Minster Wildcats 2,234-2,085 in a non-conference match at

Community Lanes on Saturday.

Deanna Brown's games of 180 and 172 led to a match high average of 176 pins.

Lilah Thien and Jayden Wyerick both bowled two games as well, averaging 166 and 155.5 pins, respectively. Wyerick rolled the high game of 187 pins.

In their career debuts, Elizabeth Kahlig and Liliana Williams shot a 128 and 127, respectively. Malia Grisez (87) and Claire Gaerke (83) both made their debuts for the Indians (1-0).

Fort Recovery totaled 814 pins over the five baker games for a 162.8 average. The fourth game was the high as the Tribe shot a 181.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today

Jay County — Junior high girls basketball at Adams Central — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball vs. Adams Central — 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Girls basketball scrimmage vs. Newton — 5 p.m.

Thursday

Jay County — Girls wrestling at Columbia City — 6 p.m.; Junior high girls basketball at Muncie Southside — 5:30 p.m.

Friday

Jay County — Girls basketball at Bellmont — 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Boys basketball scrimmage at Newton — 5 p.m.

Saturday

Jay County — Girls wrestling at Mooresville team duals — 9 a.m.; Girls swim at Westfield — 10 a.m.; Boys basketball scrimmage vs. Beech Grove — 3 p.m.; Girls basketball at Winchester — 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Boys bowling vs. St. Henry at Plaza Lanes — 9 a.m.; Boys bowling vs. Van Wert at Plaza Lanes — 1 p.m.; Girls bowling vs. Van Wert at Plaza Lanes — 1 p.m.; Girls basketball vs. Memorial — 6 p.m.

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. — College basketball: Middle Tennessee at Michigan (BTN)

7 p.m. — College football: Miami (OH) at Buffalo (ESPN)

7 p.m. — NBA: Houston Rockets at Cleveland Cavaliers (ESPN); Charlotte Hornets at Indiana Pacers (FDSN Indiana)

7 p.m. — College basketball: Arizona at UConn (FS1)

9 p.m. — College basketball: Alabama at Illinois (FS1)

9:30 p.m. — NBA: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks (ESPN)

Thursday

6 p.m. — College basketball: Lindenwood at Indiana (BTN)

7 p.m. — College basketball: Bucknell at St. John's (TNT); Pitt at UCF (ESPN2)

7 p.m. — St. Louis Blues at Philadelphia Flyers (FDSN Indiana)

7:30 p.m. — College football: Louisiana at Arkansas State (ESPN)

7:30 p.m. — Formula 1: Las Vegas Grand Prix (ESPN)

8 p.m. — NBA: Sacramento Kings at Memphis Grizzlies (NBC)

8 p.m. — College basketball: Western Michigan at Ohio State (BTN)

8 p.m. — College volleyball: Iowa at Nebraska (FS1)

8:15 p.m. — NFL: Buffalo Bills at Houston Texans (ABC)

9 p.m. — College basketball: Rider at Houston (TNT)

9 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Iowa at Baylor (ESPN2)

10 p.m. — College basketball: Troy at USC (BTN)

11 p.m. — Formula 1: Las Vegas Grand Prix (ESPN2)

.....

To have an event listed in "Sports on tap", email details to sports@thecr.com